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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,272	10/31/2003	Richard J. Macor	HSF0310	2053

7590 02/14/2005

Richard J. Macor  
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 Asbury, NJ 08802-1213

EXAMINER
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MEISLIN, DEBRA S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3723

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/699,272

**Applicant(s)**

MACOR, RICHARD J.

**Examiner**

Debra S Meislin

**Art Unit**

3723

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 October 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/31/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 4, 11, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Hsien (2004/0206213).

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2-3, 5-10, 12-13 and 15-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsien in view of Smith et al.

With respect to claims 3 and 13, Hsien discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for having a molded shroud. Smith et al discloses molded shrouds. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the shroud of Hsien as molded as such would have been an obvious method of manufacture for its known properties as taught by Smith et al.

With respect to claims 2 and 12, Hsien discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for having a non-twisted external portion. Smith et al discloses handle shrouds that are non-twisted and whose outer surface does not necessarily conform to the inner

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surface or handle surface shape. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the external portion of Hsien as non-twisted or not conforming to the inner surface or handle surface shape to allow for a smooth outer surface as taught by Smith et al.

With respect to claims 5-10 and 15-20, Hsien disclose all of the claimed subject matter except for the handle shroud being formed as two interconnecting or separate parts joined by a hinge. Smith et al discloses a handle shroud being formed as two interconnecting or separate parts joined by a hinge. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the shroud of Hsien with two interconnecting or separate parts joined by a hinge to allow for the attachment to a tool as taught by Smith et al.

5. Claims 2-3 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hsien in view of Lamond.

With respect to claims 3 and 13, Hsien discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for having a molded shroud. Lamond discloses molded shrouds. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to form the shroud of Hsien as molded as such would have been an obvious method of manufacture for its known properties as taught by Lamond.

With respect to claims 2 and 12, Hsien discloses all of the claimed subject matter except for having a non-twisted external portion. Lamond discloses handle shrouds that are non-twisted and whose outer surface does not necessarily conform to the inner surface or handle surface shape. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary


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skill in the art to form the external portion of Hsien as non-twisted or not conforming to the inner surface or handle surface shape to allow for a smooth outer surface as taught by Lamond.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Debra S Meislin whose telephone number is 571 272-4487. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, alt. Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Hail can be reached on 571 272-4485. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Debra S Meislin  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3723

February 10, 2005